

The UE facing territorial diversity – The role of local development facing the crisis

**Seminar: THE EU AND ITS RURAL AREAS: A CUMBERSOME LEGACY IN
THE 21ST CENTURY?**

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Spatial planning not EU competence...BUT

... agreement on principles & objectives at European level

Territorial cohesion (EU Treaty objective)

- ...harmonious, sustainable and polycentric development

Leipzig charter (Intergovernmental)

- Inclusive and integrated sustainable urban development

Toledo declaration (Intergovernmental)

- Implementing the Leipzig charter in Europe 2020 context

Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020 – (Intergov.)

- Balanced economic growth
- Balanced territorial organisation
- Polycentric urban structure
- Good accessibility to services of general economic interest
- Compact settlement structure with limited urban sprawl
- High level of protection and quality of the environment

Territorial cohesion: ensuring harmonious, sustainable and polycentric development...

...enabling citizens and enterprises

- to make the most of the inherent features of different territories
- to benefit from and contribute to European integration and the functioning of the Single Market
- wherever they happen to live or operate
 - **Concentration:** overcoming differences in density
 - **Connection:** improving accessibility and reducing the economic significance of distance
 - **Cooperation:** reducing the impact of international and inter-regional boundaries

Different meanings in different territorial contexts

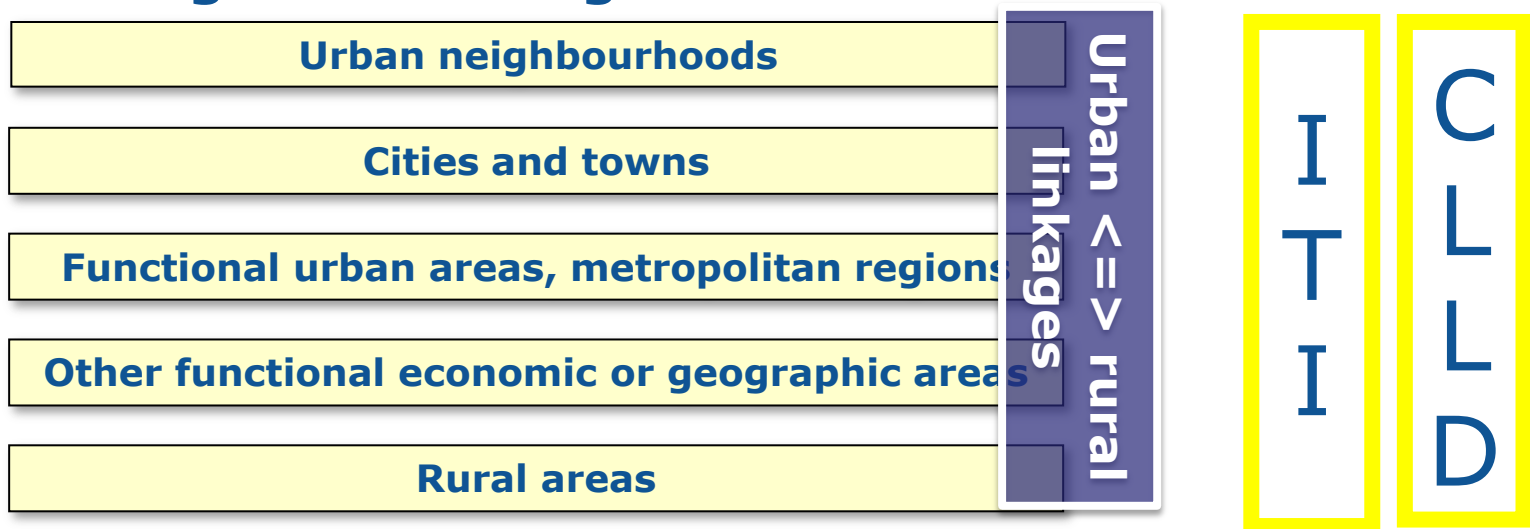
Integrated territorial approaches

- Focus on specific functional territories, areas or places;
- Builds on integrated strategies to reach area specific objectives in line with overall national and regional objectives;
- Demands solid and shared knowledge of potential and challenges;
- Empowers stakeholders close to the place or territory that are essential for its development

Thematic dimension: **Concentration on Europe 2020 priorities**

<u>Smart growth</u>	<u>Sustainable growth</u>	<u>Inclusive growth</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research & Innovation • ICT • SME 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-carbon • Resource-efficiency • Risk-prevention • Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment • Social inclusion • Education

Territorial dimension: **Integrated strategies and actions** **Instruments**



Community-Led Local Development: definition

Article 28.2 of Common Provisions

- a) focused on **specific sub-regional territories**;
- b) **community-led**, by local action groups composed of representatives of **public and private local socio-economic interests**, no majority partner
- c) Carried out through **integrated** and **multi-sectoral area-based** local development strategies;
- d) considering **local needs and potential**, include networking and (where relevant) cooperation.

ERDF article 5 investment priority 9 (d): investments undertaken in the context of Community-led local development strategies

ITI & CLLD - *inside* the strategic framework

Partnership Agreement

- *Overall priorities, territorial challenges & approaches*

CF

- *Idem*

ERDF

- *Fund specific investment priorities related to Europe 2020 thematic objectives*

ESF

- *Idem*

EAFRD

- *Idem*

EMFF

- *Idem*

Community-Led Local Development

Integrated Territorial Investments

CLLD value added: capacity building and empowering the local population

- *The potential added value of Leader approach is not solely in the results and impacts of the physical outputs. The community involvement achieved through the bottom-up approach can also lead to less tangible impacts, such as **"capacity-building" and "empowering the local population"** (ECA special report on Leader 5/2010).*
- **Capacity building at local level** as a key element of CLLD approach.
- **Promoting community ownership**, finding local solutions to local problems.

Community-led local development under future cohesion policy

- **Optional** for **ERDF**, ESF and EMFF, obligatory under EAFRD

Incentives:

- CLLD actions programmed under *one* thematic objective (TO9) for **ERDF**, ESF and EAFRD: Promoting Social Inclusion and Combating poverty – but allows funding strategies and projects with wider scope.
- For **ERDF** and ESF, an entire priority axis dedicated to CLLD benefits from 10% higher EU co-financing rate.

Why CLLD in all European Structural and Investment Funds?

- *Integrated territorial approach allowing more coherence and synergies between the ESI Funds*
- *URBAN Community Initiatives have proven relevance in urban areas*
- *Allows interventions in peri-urban*
- *Supports urban-rural partnerships*
- *No more white spots on the map*

Commission's role

- *CLLD guidance discussed with and available for Member States*
- *CLLD examples were presented during the Open Days*
- *A continued exchange of experience between Member States at the Territorial Cohesion and Urban Matters sub-committee*
- *Development of more examples.... But the regulation is very flexible*



Thank you!

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Future regional policy

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/what/future/proposals_2014_2020_en.cfm

Common Guidance by the ESI Funds on CLLD :

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/what/future/pdf/preparation/clld_guidance_2013_04_29.pdf